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BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Boston,

being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with much pleasure that I present to you the Report of the Port Medical Officer of the Boston Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1964 as required by Regulation 12(4) of the Public Health (Port Health District) Regulations 1959. It has been prepared in accordance with Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health.

During 1964 there was a marked increase in the total number of ships entering the Port. There was an increase of 73 from foreign ports compared with 1963, 1,328 as against 1,255. This gave a tonnage of 293,038 compared with 276,668. The number of coastwise ships was 362, an increase of 94 as compared with 1963. This gave a tonnage of 75,564 as against 58,756. The total tonnage for the year was 368,602 compared with 335,424 in 1963, an increase of 33,178 tons.

With regard to cargo traffic there was little change in the principal imports and exports which are listed in Table C. Foreign ports of origin were also mainly the same.

No cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported on any of the ships entering the Port during 1964.

During the year 26 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued. There was a reduction in the number of notices in respect of nuisance, only 3 being served compared with 15 in 1963. All these notices were complied with before the vessels sailed.

I should like to thank the Officers of H.M. Customs, Waterguard, the Port Manager and his Staff and all others connected with the Port for their assistance during the year and also the Port Health Inspectors for their usual willing co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6, Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.

March, 1965.

SECTION I - Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer.	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1-5-58.	M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.-Holland County Council.Medical Officer of Health-Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health-Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G.E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15-10-45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector-Borough of Boston.
MILSOM,D.H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1-10-59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector-Borough of Boston.
SAUNDERS, B.J.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	26 - 6-61. (Resigned 28 - 6-64)	Cert.P.H.I.E.B. Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector-Borough of Boston.
THOMSETT, C.E.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	12-10-64	Cert.P.H.I.E.B. Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector-Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health.) Public Health Department, 6, Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs. BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

SECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number inspected.		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Port Health Inspectors.	
Foreign Ports.	1,328.	293,038.	Nil.	69.	Nil.
Coastwise.	362.	75,564.	Nil.	12.	Nil.
Total.	1,690.	368,602.	Nil.	81.	Nil.

SECTION III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	Number of passengers INWARDS : 398. Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 93.
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Battens and Boards, Bulbs, Deals, Fertilizers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Petroleum, Potatoes, Salt, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General. Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Sheep, Steel and General.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive ...	BELGIUM : Antwerp, Brussels, Nieuport. CYPRUS : Famagusta. DENMARK : Frederikssund. FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Toppila. FRANCE : Bayonne, Dunkirk, Gravelines, Rouen. GERMANY : Hamburg, Stralsund, Wismar. GREECE : Milos, Naxos. HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Rotterdam, Terneuzen, Ymuiden. MALTA : Valletta. MOROCCO : Casablanca. NORWAY : Aaheim, Moh-I-Rana, Sundalsora. POLAND : Gdansk, Stettin. RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Kem, Leningrad. SARDINIA : Cagliari. SPAIN : Malaga. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Kalmar, Norrkoping.

SECTION IV - Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

SECTION V - Water supply.

1. Source of supply for
   (a) The District.
   (b) Shipping.

On the 1st April, 1964 the Corporation's Water Undertaking was merged into the East Lincolnshire Water Board and since that date the supply for both (a) and (b) has been obtained from this source.

2. Reports of tests for contamination.

- NO CHANGE -

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

- NO CHANGE -

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).
Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

- NO CHANGE -

2. Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

- NO CHANGE -

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).
Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

- NO CHANGE -

4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

- NO CHANGE -

5. Arrangements for :-

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII) :

- NO CHANGE -

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :

- NO CHANGE -

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION VII - Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Holland County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. G. Nisbet,
Bridge Street,
Peterborough.

Dr. J. Glen,
Springfield Hospital,
Scarthoe,
Grimsby.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A.W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease.	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned.
		Passengers.	Crew.	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1964.

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1964.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, but during 1964 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons.	16.
Ships from 301 - 1,000 tons.	10.
Ships from 1,001 - 3,000 tons.	Nil.
Total.	26.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of nuisances found.		Notices served.		Result of serving Notices.
		Statutory Notices.	Other Notices.	
Defects of Original Construction.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	-
Structural Defects through wear and tear.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	-
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.	3.	Nil.	3.	3 complied with.
Total	3.	Nil.	3.	3 complied with.

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

A report was received from Nottingham early in the year of mussels originating from beds within the Port Health District being affected with Salmonellae. Samples taken at the time of the report were satisfactory and very soon afterwards the season ended. Samples taken later in the year were also satisfactory.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

- NO CHANGE -

Food Inspection.

A list of the principal food imports appears in Table C on page 4. The main items of food were as follows :-

	Tons.
Grain (in)	24,014.
Grain (out)	10,033.
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.	26,835.
Potatoes.	10,564.
Onions.	12,483.
Starch.	20,851.
Glucose.	4,661.
Confectionery.	169.
Dehydrated Vegetables.	209.
Beer.	579.
Vegetables in Brine.	1,089.
Tomato Puree.	230.
Frozen Foods.	61.
Fruit in Tins.	87.
Meat in Tins.	35.
Miscellaneous.	120.

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :-

Apples	3 boxes.
Cabbage	3 ½ bags.
Carrots	100 ½ bags.
	28 lbs.
Cherries.	169 x 4½ lb.Chips.
Lemons.	30 Cartons.
Onions.	31 bags.
	3913 ½ bags.
	6 ¼ bags.
	4 baskets.
	250 lbs.

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